

Vol. XXXVI NOVEMBER, 1940 No. 3

The Masonic Craftsman

*Published Monthly at Boston,
Massachusetts, in the Interest
of Freemasonry*

In This Issue: Masonic War Relief Plans


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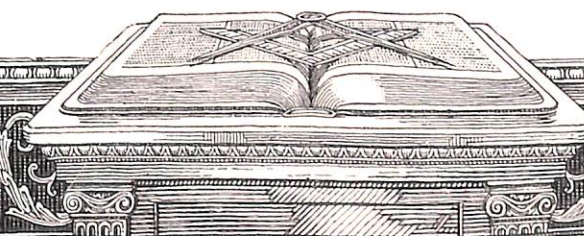
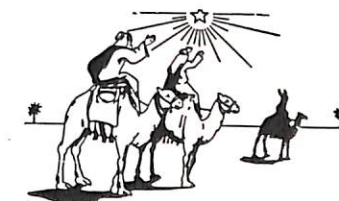
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Vol. 36 NOVEMBER, 1940 No. 3

OUTPOST This writer had the recent privilege of witnessing, with other American Masons, an exemplification of the Work of the First degree in a lodgeroom in Puerto Rico. This is not the first time we have seen Work in "foreign" lodges, but the sincerity, and we doubt not, accuracy (the language was foreign) impressed all alike with its beauty and sincerity. During the rendition of the Ritual closest attention was paid and it was obvious that a most favorable opinion was entertained of our Puerto Rican brethren and their ability along ritualistic lines.

It takes such a visit as this sometimes to prove that we have no monopoly of ritualistic excellence and that the demeanour and efficiency of lodges in far off places are the equal of ours and a source of pride and pleasure to meetings which are also probably better-attended.

SERVICE In this issue appears, verbatim, a report of the action thus far taken to supply to the armed forces of this country such Masonic social support as may be possible under the war department's authority.

A vast number of men will soon be quartered in cantonments. With whatever facilities provided by government, there will yet be many, particularly among men of the fraternity, to whom in arduous training days a quiet retreat from military life will be welcome.

The problems involved are large and complex, but able men are directing the plan and it is hoped that the fraternity will not be rebuffed now as it was in World War I.

The proposed amenities are admirable. There will, necessarily, be need for certain fluidity in their development for the camp population will change continually.

Such preliminary action as has been taken under the auspices of the Masonic Service Association of the United States, however, show a comprehension of the situation. The good wishes of all Masons will go to the enterprise of making the service man's life as comfortable as possible.

SPES BONA "Death and sorrow will be the companions of our journey, hardship our garment, constancy and valour our only shield". These stirring words of Winston Churchill to the House of Commons and as well to the nation now gallantly fighting the fight of freedom from tyranny, does not as might be thought denote despair, rather do they come as a more solemn note in a confident talk to his fellows on the state of affairs in Britain.

Truly it has been said that this is England's finest hour, and when the flame of force has faded and when, once again, the world will have regained its sanity, which please God may be soon, when the powers of evil have been shattered and broken and peace once more restored incident upon brave incident will proclaim the power of a valiant race to bear testimony to the fundamental and almighty force of truth against the foulness of reckless barbarity.

All Americans, of whatever profession of faith or creed, watching the stirring events transpiring abroad will be proud of their association on the side of right against might even though it be only by means of "every assistance short of war."

MANTLE In the report of a committee on uniforms appearing in the annual (1940) Proceedings of a Grand Commandery one of the suggestions made was:

"Where a Sir Knight has outgrown his present coat, would suggest to the officers of the commanderies that they exchange his coat for a mantle, in order to keep him interested in Templar Masonry and also to overcome the objections laid down in the committee's report of the Sir Knight for not attending the conclaves and other functions because his coat does not fit any more." (*Italics ours.*)

It is not often one finds an element of humor in these annual reports, aside from the bromidic perorations from the head table at banquets but here is one to excite the funnybone.

It has its serious side, however, and lovers of the Chivalric Rite will see in it some concern for the Order, for if the cut of the coat, or cape, is to be the dominant influence persuading men to attend conclaves, then indeed a new law must be registered. Granted that smart attire adds to esprit in a uniformed organization, the fundamental concept of Templarism reaches to higher objectives and such trivial matter as the above is of small consequence.

Truly Templar Masons need new leadership and inspiration to direct them toward the serious purposes of the Order if their professions are not to be so much "sounding brass and tinkling cymbal".

NEEDS In the present state of society it is necessary that Freemasonry keep in mind its essentials. This because if they are lost sight of amid the confusion the criticism may justly be leveled at it that it has no function.

That Freemasonry is a tremendously potential power is not to be denied. That it is cognizant of its powers and is making use of them is something else again.

Of necessity Craft leaders in a world hopelessly perplexed economically and spiritually are concerned more

The New England Masonic Craftsman magazine is published monthly. It is devoted to the interests of Freemasonry, and the brotherhood of man. Entered as second-class matter October 5, 1905, at the Post-office at Boston, Massachusetts, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. The subscription price in the United States and Canada is Two Dollars a year, payable in advance. Foreign subscription is Three Dollars. Twenty-five cents a single copy. Address all letters to the New England Masonic Craftsman, 27 Beach Street, Boston, Massachusetts. For the news and advertising departments call Hancock 6451.

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Alfred Hampden Moorhouse, Editor and Publisher.

with their own immediate and personal day to day problems. There are not enough men who are devoted to it with sufficient private means to enable them to concentrate exclusively on constructive leadership. The average man gets but a smattering of Masonic knowledge.

What is needed today within Freemasonry is inspired leadership. We have not got it. Routine work goes along in a routine way with an increasing attrition of indifference. Small wonder a great force is becoming static—impotent.

While we hear a surfeit of pious platitudes, it must be noted that pious platitudes do not win victories for Truth—through Masonic Light or any similar media.

A principal charge in the indictment is indifference—indifference due largely to ignorance—of the positive and urgent need for decisive constructive action on and in behalf of the several millions comprised within the membership and its relationship to present day emergencies.

It is no use begging the question by resorting to the Pharisaical phrase: "Am I my brother's keeper?" We are! in the sense that such Masonic enlightenment as we may have received should be directed to uplifting ourselves, and others, to higher spiritual standards.

While apathy rules—progress ceases. Standing still in a swiftly changing world is not simply going backward—it is conducive to obstruction.

These are plain words—and meant to be. The softer shock of facing realities now and taking steps to improve conditions is better than the far heavier one which will come when we have discovered, too late, that our opportunity has been lost.

LAG With pretty complete knowledge brought daily and vividly to mind by radio and through the columns of the daily papers, Freemasons here and everywhere have some idea of events transpiring abroad.

They have seen Freemasonry, in its physical aspects at least, destroyed by the vicious exercise of unscrupulous force perpetrating unspeakable atrocities upon innocent people.

In the comfort and comparative security of our homes here in America we can, if we are so inclined, look upon the tragic events transpiring as not of our concern, but we will be callous indeed if we maintain any such view, for they affect us vitally if not at present so closely.

What are we doing to help, aid and assist our brethren abroad? particularly in England, from whence came our charter, and from whence even now we derive our inspiration to carry on the fight against the forces of unleashed fury and hate? To date, after several months of almost ceaseless bombing of civilians, with the destruction of many Masonic homes or homes where Masons and their families lived, no official step has been taken in Massachusetts, so far as known, to render that assistance to which our British brethren are entitled by all the rules of Masonic conduct, as well as the simple dictates of conscience.

This is a fateful hour for Freemasonry and for the world. Events are changing the face of society, and

important among civilizing agencies stands our ancient Craft.

It is no time for vacillation. It is time for firm, consistent, complete action. If the fair name of Freemasonry is to remain unsullied, full, unselfish and generous aid must be proffered. Deeds—not words—count now as nothing else can—and we look confidently to the Grand East for a leadership that will translate into action the first principles of our beloved fraternity.

INCIDENT THE CRAFTSMAN has received the following communication which speaks eloquently for itself:

"Dear Sir: We thank you for your journal; please discontinue despatch. We regret to advise you that following the destruction, by enemy action, of our City premises, it is impossible for us to continue publication meantime. THE FREEMASON (London)".

Thus a Masonic weekly which has been published continuously for over half a century finds itself obliged, temporarily it is hoped, to cease publication. The Freemason was a worthy contemporary, lucidly portraying in its columns the news of the Craft in London and the provinces.

Not once do we recall seeing mention of the war in its pages except in the occasional death notice of an illustrious member who died on the field of battle.

With the superb self-control characteristic of the English, it maintained its objective view of the present distressful scene, devoting its columns exclusively to the good of Freemasonry. Even in the final notice of its demise not one word of bitterness is found.

A bomb may be an effective means of destroying material things. It cannot destroy spiritual values; rather does it fan a desire to proceed valiantly toward the things that are RIGHT. We look forward to the day when The Freemason will rise Phoenix-like from its ashes to again enlighten the Craft it has served so well.

DEMENTIA A lucid explanation of the very common disease of dementia praecox is given on another page of this issue and the reasons for the generous contributions being made from the funds of the Supreme Council A.A.S.R., N.M.J. by its sovereign grand commander, Melvin M. Johnson.

Always in Nature are challenging mysteries to be solved and this sore affliction of the human race is one of the most intriguing, as it is the most menacing.

If the money being spent for investigating its causes bears effect—and there are encouraging reasons to believe it will—future generations of Masons may take justifiable pride in the foresight of the grand commander and his confreres: that they had the vision to attack a problem involving the cure of a malady which is annually causing incalculable loss.

Readers unfamiliar with the disease will find the article illuminating, and the practical nature of the gifts of money in keeping with the sound judgment which governs the Scottish Rite in its undertakings.

The talk was broadcast over a radio network from Cincinnati recently.

A Monthly Symposium

The "Inner Cliques" of Grand Lodge

The Editors;

JOSEPH E. MORCOMBE
SAN FRANCISCO

WILLIAM C. RAPP
CHICAGO

ALFRED H. MOORHOUSE
BOSTON

INNER CLIQUES IN GRAND LODGE

By ALFRED H. MOORHOUSE
Editor *Masonic Craftsman*, Boston

IN any organization constituted on more or less authoritarian lines certain powers must of necessity be delegated to individuals best qualified to exercise them.

While Freemasonry is not authoritarian in essence it does in some of its functioning lend itself more or less to the methods of that system. For instance, the Grand Master is to a very large extent supreme in his authority. Great power inheres in the office. Being selected for unusual qualities of ability and beneficence, however, his efforts are invariably directed towards promoting the most good with the most harmony. Cases where the authority in him vested has been abused are rare indeed.

Attendant upon the affairs of directing Masonic jurisdictions—embracing in several states hundreds of thousands of individuals in hundreds of lodges—there are bound to be found at times conflicting elements advocating varied policies or methods. In consequence we now and then see some inside maneuvering for position or place.

Then, too, men who have devoted practically all their lives to serving the Craft have got themselves attached to paid Masonic office and naturally enough, desirous of seeing things proceed smoothly and in a way least calculated to disturb the comfortable routine of their jobs do a little quiet, but often effective campaigning on behalf of a favored or receptive individual, who will assure that status.

The average Mason has little knowledge of the processes by which high office is attained. Too frequently he leaves the matter to "George" to do, and is generally content to docilely follow the policies and approve the practices of the preferred—comforting himself with the fact that the plan has always worked fairly well and probably will so continue.

As a general proposition he is not to be blamed for this but none the less it must be said that inaction is the negation of constructive action, and Freemasonry is a progressive science compelling the skill of all true Craftsmen.

Cliques and cabals are not unknown within the Craft. They are sometimes mischievous, bringing about disharmony. More generally the men of the inner circle who dictate policy are individuals of highest merit, acting with an eye sole to the credit of the Craft and with a keen sense of the dignity of high office.

It should be the part of all grand officers at all times to discourage any semblance of disunity, or cliques, to reconcile diverse opinion insofar as that is possible, the while giving ear and heed to the expressions of "public opinion" within the Craft. No semblance of an autocracy should be permitted. Such power is dangerous and continued perpetuation in high office has a tendency to create authority to a point where the holder thereof feels himself above the will of the mass and to a certain extent a law unto himself.

"It is not necessary that we all think alike; it IS necessary that we all THINK", and a little thought will readily demonstrate that the best good of the fraternity is served by the choice only of those leaders who will serve its purposes unselfishly and to their utmost; men chosen for the possession of qualities of high character rather than by the schemes of any clique with ulterior or selfish motive.

If cliques exist and their purposes are not of the very highest they should be dissolved.

NO ROOM FOR INNER CLIQUES

By WM. C. RAPP
Editor *Masonic Chronicle*, Chicago

THE topic assigned for discussion inquires as to the force exerted by "inner cliques" in Grand Lodges. The definition of a clique is a narrow circle of persons associated for the accomplishment of a common

purpose, to which the dictionary adds that the term generally is used in a bad sense. With this definition in mind, we must confess that after a quarter of a century of regular attendance at Grand Lodge we have failed to discover any cliques.



It may not be denied that in all Grand Lodges there are what may be termed "ruling powers," men or groups of men who exercise notable influence because of greater ability, knowledge or experience, but this condition will be found to prevail in all walks of life. American Grand Lodges theoretically and actually are very democratic institutions. The preponderance of authority rests in the representatives of the constituent lodges of the state. Whenever they see fit to do so, these representatives can direct affairs down to the minutest detail. In practice, however, they lack experience and aggressiveness, and humbly submit to the directions and wishes of those who apparently know what it is all about. A large number of them are in attendance at Grand Lodge for the first time and feel a natural reluctance to voice views in opposition to more experienced brethren.

Once in a long time the otherwise complacent representatives seriously take the oft repeated declaration that "this is your Grand Lodge," upset the apple cart and have their own way, but usually the powers that be carry on—and invariably their judgment is sound and their conclusions are for the best interests of the fraternity and all concerned.

Grand Lodge sessions are painfully harmonious and peaceful. In the rare instances where something of a radical nature flares up it is given the coup de grace without creating much more than a ripple of excitement. Tradition rules relentlessly. Various reports are read, and their component parts are duly referred by a committee on distribution to other committees—to which they would automatically go by virtue of law or custom anyhow. These committees solemnly make exactly the reports and recommendations expected, and Grand Lodge concurs. The election of new officers is considered of much importance, but the result can usually be foretold by the wise ones weeks before the ballots are cast or counted.

With such a set-up there is no field for a clique to work or to accomplish anything. It cannot be designated as steamroller tactics, for that presumes that there is somebody or something to roll over, whereas everyone is in perfect accord.

TERM UNJUSTLY USED

By JOS. E. MORCOMBE

Editor *Masonic World*, San Francisco, California

WHAT Force is There in Charge of an 'Inner Clique' in Grand Lodge?" Such charge, or its equivalent, has been made through time out of mind, and presumably since Grand Lodges were estab-



lished and began to function. Remembering the old Scotch proverb that "there is aye some water where they say the stirkie was drowned," we will admit that occasionally there may have been some element of truth in the assertion. But even the most truthful statement needs to be guarded by explanation and definition before it can be generally accepted as axiomatic.

If we extend our inquiry to other organizations, of whatever character or purpose, it will be found that all these are largely governed by small groups, called "cliques" by those who are not in harmony with the policies adopted. The "town meeting" method of getting things done of a public nature, may have sufficed for the small New England community. But with enlargement of the electoral body, and a growing complexity of interests, such method proved inadequate, and broke down of its own unwieldiness.

In the modern life, wherever issues of importance are to be presented to an interested group for decision, there is need that wisdom and experience shall first consider and analyze the factors involved, and put the whole matter in plain and easily understandable terms. This holds true for the directorates and stockholders of the big business corporations. It is the plan adopted as most effective by political parties, where the bulk of

the electors can not grasp abstract questions, and require simplified statement and concrete presentation on their own mental level. The like method is essential to acquaint the rank and file of Masonry with what may be necessary or advisable in the way of legislation or action. To a majority of those attending Grand Lodge Masonry is but an incidental interest in their lives. They have neither time, opportunity nor liking to inform themselves as to conditions affecting the fraternity. They must of necessity rely upon the few who have the required knowledge, and with the experience and competency to put all the facts within easy reach of the brethren.

This loose talk of "Grand Lodge cliques," in which so many indulge, is in most cases designed to hide the ignorance of the complainers. They would have their hearers believe that they, if allowed, could and would take all into fullest confidence, and illuminate the situation without difficulty or possible dissent. It is strange, indeed, that such paragons of wisdom are unable in lesser matters of the Craft to let their light shine for benefit of their fellows close at hand.

All this is not to say that there have never been occasion for justified criticism in relation to Grand Lodge management. There have been, and doubtless will continue to be, blockheads who have gained to the purple, and who imagine that a seat on the rostrum and the possession of a gold-trimmed apron confer upon them an infallibility of thought and utterance. But such misfits are the exception, not the rule. The men who really count; those who have the confidence of their brethren in any Grand Lodge—the leaders of "the clique"—are those who have given their time and abilities without stint to the service of the fraternity. They have studied and thought out their position on the subjects brought before the body. They consider themselves amply paid in realization that their efforts are for the general benefit. They know that the intelligent ones among their fellows are thoroughly appreciative of their labors.

Though it is said that "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet," yet it might be well to devise some distinctive term whereby to distinguish between the occasional know-it-all, who is first and last an ignoramus or a stuffed shirt, and the patient and self-sacrificing Masters of Craft, who work together for the welfare and advancement of Masonry. To apply to these a term capable of conveying a sneer or a slur is to reward disinterested labor with insolence and disrespect.

FREEMASONRY BANNED IN NORWAY

From Oslo, Norway, Nov. 29 an Associated Press dispatch via Berlin states that Freemasonry was prohibited in German-occupied Norway in a decree by Maj. Vidkun Quisling, Norwegian Nazi fuhrer, which set penalties for members slow to quit and converted the order's headquarters into a museum.

Masons who had resigned before last April 9, when the Germans moved in, may have full standing in the National Union party, it declared, but other former Masons must wait for three probationary years for admission to full standing.

Masonic Welfare Work

WITH THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES

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"The Masonic Service Association of the United States is a servant of Freemasonry. Formed of and supported by American Grand Lodges, it is a voice they may command to speak, a hand they can move to action, that the great heart of the fraternity may be made manifest and that the will of a united Craft may be done."

PREFACE

During World War I, Raymond B. Fosdick, civilian assistant in the War Department in charge of all training camp activities not military in character, told Most Worshipful Townsend Scudder, Chairman of the welfare mission of the Grand Lodge of New York:

"I understand that the Masonic fraternity in the United States is a disjointed organization, every state being a separate jurisdiction, in addition to which there are numerous other Masonic bodies, none of them in this country owing allegiance to any one head organization.

"The United States War Department cannot issue forty-nine separate permits to as many different Masonic jurisdictions. The best it could do would be to issue one permit to the fraternity under which all would have to come, for which purpose a single head or committee would be necessary which would represent the entire Masonic fraternity in this country with which the government could deal and which it could hold responsible."

(Report of the Masonic Overseas Mission, 1919—Pages 9 and 10)

Thus was Freemasonry bound and helpless during World War I to give aid, comfort, help to its Craftsmen in khaki.

The result was the formation of The Masonic Service Association of the United States in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1918 and 1919.

With every hope that this nation may never engage in armed conflict; with every principle of Freemasonry striving for peace with honor, it nevertheless appears essential that the fraternity prepare for the dreaded eventuality of war—even as the nation, hoping for peace, is preparing for war.

The following sets forth plans which the grand lodges of the United States can use, if, in their wisdom, they desire to engage in welfare work among the armed forces of the nation, in the event that war comes, or prior to that dread event, in peace time mobilization and training.

SCOPE OF THE PLANS

The Constitution of the Association states:

"The object of this Association shall be the service of mankind, through education and enlightenment, financial relief and Masonic visitation, and ministering to, comforting and relieving the members of the fraternity, and their dependents, particularly in times of distress and disaster, whether caused by WAR, Pestilence, famine, fire, flood, earthquake or other calamity."

"War" is named first among causes of disaster. The thought was that if ever again armed conflict afflicted

this nation, the fraternity would have a single agency which might do the will of all Grand Lodges in establishing Masonic contacts and rendering Masonic service to brethren in the armed forces of the United States.

A year ago the Association queried all grand masters, the heads of the two Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite, the Grand Encampment, the General Grand Chapter, the General Grand Council, the Shrine, and the National Sojourners, asking:

1. In the event that this nation is drawn into war, should Freemasonry ask the government for an opportunity to serve as a welfare agency, to comfort and aid Masons, of course according to Army and Navy regulations, and in cooperation with the armed forces of the nation?

If your answer to the above question is in the affirmative:

2. Will you join with your sister grand lodges in commanding this Association to do your will?

3. Will you attend, or send a representative to attend, a meeting of the grand masters (or their representatives) of all grand lodges, coming yourself with power to act, or delegating such power to your representative, so that the results of such a coordination meeting may be authoritative?

Thirty-seven grand masters and five of the seven National organizations replied in the affirmative.

Of the grand masters who did not answer the questionnaire, some wished further light; others, to consult advisers; a few wanted to see definite plans before venturing an opinion. The executive commission of the Association and the advisory committee on welfare confidently believe that a large majority of the grand jurisdictions will join in this work, if and when the emergency occurs.

Another object of the Association is set forth in its Constitution: "Ministering to, comforting and relieving the members of the fraternity"—which seems to cover Masonic morale and welfare work in training centers and mobilization points, even before war is declared or this nation is attacked.

In July, 1940, the Association queried all grand masters: Should the Masonic fraternity engage in welfare work with the armed forces, trainees, etc. during times of peace? Answers in favor were only eighteen.

Sentiment among grand masters is changing with changed conditions and indications are that many grand lodges, especially in the south, will be swamped with Masonic appeals due to concentrations of draft men for a year of training. The plans herein set forth while designed for use in time of actual war, can be put into effect, either in whole or in part, at any time that grand lodges desire to unite behind them.

THE NEED

Every Mason who served in the armed forces in World War I knows the dire need of Masonic welfare work; thousands voiced their disappointment because Masonry could not organize a welfare service for those in the field. Masons in the services organized more than 200

Masonic clubs, and many of these undertook to visit the sick in hospitals and otherwise to assist brothers in distress, but such efforts were not organized as between clubs, nor between different parts of the armed forces, nor did the aid they gave come from lodges or grand lodges at home. Masons needed a Masonic service that was never available.

Because they could get Masonic contacts and service in no other way, groups of Masons in many commands during World War I petitioned grand masters for dispensations to form military lodges. Many were given, many others were disapproved.

Petitions generally set forth that a large group of Master Masons, removed from the proximity of any lodge, desired to meet with their brethren; that they needed the contacts thus afforded to keep them in close touch with the fraternity; and that, if the petition were granted, there would be no departure from the Ancient Landmarks.

Master Masons desired to meet together where rank was for the moment disregarded and brethren might gather together for the mutual improvement of all of them.

North Dakota, which had granted a dispensation for a military lodge in the Spanish-American war, promptly granted the petition for Military Lodge, No. 2. New York issued five dispensations, placing them in the hands of Most Worshipful Townsend Scudder, P.G.M. who, in turn, issued them to lodges located in New York City, Paris, Beaune, Le Mans, and Marseille. Kentucky's grand master gave dispensations for two lodges. Montana issued a dispensation, and its military lodge met on numerous occasions. Indiana, because of congested conditions in and around Camp Shelby, Mississippi, authorized a military lodge to work Indiana men who had applied for the degrees in their home lodges. Texas issued a dispensation for a lodge to be formed in Colblenz; as did Rhode Island, which granted a dispensation for Overseas Lodge, still active in Rhode Island. Connecticut twice refused petitions for a military lodge in the 56th Coast Artillery, of which Major Morris B. Payne was a battalion commander and also Worshipful Master of Union Lodge, No. 31, of New London, Connecticut. The grand master did authorize Major Payne to assemble an occasional lodge under the ancient forms, and work the three degrees upon ten candidates, and to work the third degree upon an eleventh. Major Payne afterward became grand master of the state.

Louisiana, Ohio, North Carolina and Colorado also issued dispensations and even then the list is not complete. These lodges, and the Masonic clubs in regiments, divisions, hospital stations and base camps, testify to the desire of Masons in World War I to meet with their brethren.

With the nation at peace millions of men have now registered for conscription. The law calls for training 900,000 men for a period of one year. How many more men will be drafted and trained, if this nation goes to war, is a moot question, but obviously the number will be far larger.

During World War I Masons in various branches of the service were from six to twelve per cent in number. If only one million men at any time are in training camps and corps areas, and if the average percentage is taken as the lower figure, there will yet be 60,000 brethren

in uniform all the time, and at least half as many more will be sons or blood-brothers of Masons.

The posts, camps and stations of the regular army are wholly inadequate to receive, equip and train a great army. Consequently, training camps, similar to World War camps, are being established in many states, mostly in the South where an all-year training program can be completed.

A majority of these camps are not near large communities. They thus lack entertainment facilities other than those provided by the Morale Division of the adjutant general's office, which are all within the military reservations.

Draftees, Craftsmen or not, are young men. Many of them will be away from home, most of them far from home, for the first time. All will be among strangers, and longing for friendly contacts. All will have the usual temptations inseparable from any great grouping of men cut off from home influences and kept under strict discipline; many will suffer much from homesickness.

Almost all units will go into camps far from home. The further from home, the more difficult it is to return on leave, the fewer the possible visits from family and friends, therefore, the greater the causes of homesickness.

Military and medical men know that homesickness is not a mere "vision of the night" but a powerful factor working against good morale. Statistics are not published, of course, but any experienced army officer knows that homesickness is the cause of the vast majority of suicides among men newly in the service. When it does not deplete a man's morale to such a point, it frequently incapacitates him for work, sends him to a hospital, and, if too long continued, completely destroys his value as a soldier.

Nothing cures homesickness quicker (except of course, a return home) than a friendly contact with, talk about, influences from the home.

Masonic contacts are home contacts!

It is because of this that relief, welfare and morale work by civilian organizations in general, and the Masonic fraternity in particular, is now being welcomed by army and navy authorities.

With draftees the dispersion will be even greater. Individuals will be sent to "reservoirs" from which they will be ordered to camps as fast as facilities are provided. Men from one state may be in camps in a dozen other states. The contacts and friendships established in the home state will be broken in such dispersion, again a cause of homesickness and consequent loss of morale.

Soldiers always want to get away from the rigidity of military training and discipline when off duty. Communities within reaching distance, either by train or automobile, are natural attractions.

In spite of the best efforts of civilian and military authorities, the brothel, the prostitute, the gambler and the bootlegger have always followed concentrations of soldiers and sailors whether in war or in peace. The counter attraction of a clean, orderly, inviting place in which a brother may meet his brethren; to which he can ask his buddy, whether Mason or not; in which he can find a sympathetic ear for his troubles, whether real or fancied; to which he can send word if ill or in

trouble, is very great. The establishment of such centers for brethren in uniform will be demanded not only by them, but by their families, in the next conflict as in World War I; that they may have them is the object of these plans, made for the use of grand lodges if and when they desire to put them into effect.

MEETING THE DEMAND

For several years the late Colonel Jacob Hugo Tatsch, Librarian of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, worked upon plans for morale and welfare work with the armed forces of the United States. Upon his untimely death in 1939, the Grand Master of Massachusetts turned over his work to Major and Brother Charles S. Coulter, U.S.A. (Retired).

At the time of the invasion of Belgium, the executive commission of this Association met, and, with the full cooperation of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, secured the services of Major Coulter to complete these plans, and to devise such others as might best conform to the wishes of the army, navy and marine corps. Since June, 1940, he has been at work on

THE PLAN

The plan is to establish centers and headquarters where Masons may receive fraternal contacts and service. These are planned for all major training centers, cantonments, posts, concentration and/or embarkation points.

Regulations of the armed forces prohibit the establishment of any welfare agency (except by the Red Cross) within the boundaries of any military reservation. Therefore, all such must be established in the nearest town.

They will be, wherever possible, set up in rented quarters: house, store, any available building. They will be clean, comfortable, home-like. No standardization is attempted, since different conditions, sizes of military establishments, distances of towns from headquarters, etc. demand different facilities. But, in general, it is planned to have writing desks, loafing chairs, games, magazines, hot showers—the enlisted man's greatest luxury!—some kitchen facilities where enlisted men, usually hungry, can prepare their own picnic meals when on leave—and in some cases, living quarters for those in charge. A station wagon—most satisfactory form of quick transportation for numbers—will be a part of the equipment of every center.

Masonic centers will be in charge of from two to four Field Agents; selected Master Masons well above draft age, of such character and disposition as will make them acceptable counselors to visiting Craftsmen and their friends.

SERVICES

It is planned to render any service to a brother or his friend that legitimately can be given. As men's wants are as many as the men, no complete list can be given, but services contemplated include:

- Initiating personal contacts between strangers.
- Recreational facilities.
- Roster of Masons in the command.
- Visits to Masons in Hospital.
- Notification of family in case of sickness.
- Notification of home lodge in case of sickness.
- Transportation for visiting families.

- Transportation to lodge meetings for small groups.
- Advice about local and nearby lodges.
- Complete list of all nearby Masonic bodies and bulletin board of Masonic activities.
- Assistance in drawing legal papers.
- Temporary financial assistance in need.
- Notification to nearest Masonic service center, on transfer.
- Home service investigations for the Red Cross, involving Masons.
- Legitimate aid to Masons in military difficulties.
- Aid to Chaplains in Masonic cases.
- Civil or military legal aid when requested.
- No canteen features are contemplated; cigars, cigarettes, tobacco, food, etc. will *not* be kept, sold, or given away. Such activities are beyond the scope of any Masonic plant, as they are already the province of other organizations.
- Masons do not need to be told that no proselyting will take place, but because it is not known to many non-Masons that Masonry never seeks members, it is emphatically stated that no attempt will ever be made to get a Craftsman's non-Mason buddy to become a member. Any Mason's non-Mason buddy will be as welcome as is he, but no effort whatever will be made to interest him in joining the Fraternity.

WEEK-END CLUBS

Some military reservations *will* be near large communities, which are natural magnets for soldiers off duty. With plenty of entertainment close at hand, it is always a problem why men will go a distance for something not so good. But military officers state this to be a fact.

Where a reservation is near some large community, "week-end clubs", to be open from Friday afternoon to Sunday night, are part of these plans.

These clubs will be small, have clean toilet facilities, provide a place where a man can be among friends in a decent atmosphere. The clubs will be comparatively inexpensive to establish, the largest item in their budget being for rent, heat and light. In some of the communities the Masonic Temple may offer suitable facilities. Magazines and local papers, together with comfortable lounge chairs, will comprise most of the equipment.

Such clubs have never been tried out. Their purpose is to give the men a wholesome place to spend spare time, a factor of value in keeping them from the poorer sections of the city where unwholesome conditions are frequently found.

WHERE CENTERS MAY BE ESTABLISHED

No hard and fast list of reception and replacement centers, training camps and divisional stations of the army can be compiled as it changes with revisions of official plans.

As of October 30, 1940, the following list of possible centers is authentic:

LOCATIONS OF MILITARY RESERVATIONS

- * Ayer, Mass., Fort Devens
- Wrightstown or Trenton, N.J., Fort Dix
- Fort George G. Meade, Md.
Quantico, Va., Marine Base
Petersburg, Va., Camp Lee and Eustis
- Fayetteville, N.C., Fort Bragg

- Wilmington, N.C., Anti Aircraft Firing Center
- Columbia, S.C., Fort Jackson
- Beaufort, S.C., Parris Island Marine Base
- Atlanta, Ga., Fort McPherson and General Hospital
- Columbus, Ga., Fort Benning
- Savannah, Ga., Savannah Anti Aircraft Firing Center
- Macon, Ga.
- Jacksonville, Fla., Camp Blanding
- Montgomery, Ala., Maxwell Field
- Anniston, Ala., Fort McClellan
- Alexandria, La., Camp Beauregard
- New Orleans, La., General Hospital
- Hattiesburg, Miss., Camp Shelby
- 5. Fort Knox, Ky.
- 6. Battle Creek, Mich., Fort Custer
- Chicago, Ill., Fort Sheridan
- Great Lakes Training Station
- Junction City, Kans., Fort Riley
- Little Rock, Ark., Camp Robinson
- 8. San Antonio, Tex., Fort Sam Houston and Air Field
- Palacios, Tex., Camp Hulen
- Brownwood, Tex.
- El Paso, Tex., Fort Bliss and General Hospital
- Mineral Wells, Tex., Camp Wolters
- Galveston, Tex., Anti Aircraft Firing Center
- Lawton, Okla., Fort Sill
- 9. San Diego, Calif., Naval Base
- San Luis Obispo, Calif., Camp Merriam
- Monterey, Calif., Fort Ord
- Paso Robles, Calif., Nacimiento Area
- San Francisco, Calif., Army and Navy Centers
- Tacoma, Wash., Fort Lewis

COST

The cost of establishing and conducting forty such Masonic Centers for the first year is greater than for conducting them in successive years, since equipment, once obtained, is good for a considerable period with but small depreciation.

It is not possible to fit all centers into the same cost-frame, since transportation, local facilities, rents, etc. differ in different places. The average, however, has been worked out in some detail, as follows:

ESTABLISHMENT	
Furniture	\$ 400.00
Station wagon	980.00
Mess equipment	40.00
Bed equipment	90.00
Signs, bulletin boards, etc.	100.00
Papers and magazines	50.00
Games, etc.	20.00
Miscellaneous	500.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,180.00

Cost of first year, per center, \$5,060

ONE YEAR'S OPERATION		
	Month	Year
Field Agents (2)	\$150.00	\$1,800.00
Rent, heat, light	45.00	540.00
Transportation	20.00	240.00
Incidentals	25.00	300.00
		<hr/>
		\$2,880.00

* Numbers refer to Corps Areas.

Cost for first year, forty centers	\$202,400
Headquarters	18,000
Regional Directors (Salaries, 8)	14,400
Supervision, travel, clerical help for directors	15,000
	<hr/>
Grand Total, first year	\$249,800

HOW THE PLAN MAY BE FINANCED

If every one of the 2,500,000 Master Masons of the United States contributed ten cents, one year's operation (plus establishment) would be financed. Or:

If every one of the approximately 16,000 lodges contributed \$15.50 each, the plan would be financed.

Grand lodges *might* appropriate their proportion from their reserves. Most would appeal to their lodges, or ask their lodges to appeal to their members.

There should be no difficulty in securing the necessary funds if the nation were at war, the men in training, and the plan adopted. This Association has repeatedly appealed for funds for relief. The response has always been generous. In the Mississippi flood disaster more than \$600,000 was contributed by the fraternity. The two great Florida hurricanes of 1926 and 1928 drew \$114,000; \$107,000 respectively. For five great disasters the fraternity contributed through the Association nearly \$1,000,000.

Contributions from lodges generally exceed the amount asked. In 1937 an appeal was made for the relief of the flood-stricken Grand Lodge of Kentucky. One and one-half cents was asked; an average of *two and one-half cents was received*. One grand lodge asked its lodges for contributions at the rate of one and one-half cents and received an average of nine cents. Another, asking for one and one-half cents, received more than thirty cents!

All who have been associated with Masonic relief are confident that if this nation goes to war and these welfare plans are adopted by grand lodges, not a penny need be taken from grand lodge funds; lodges, either from their own treasuries, or from appeals to their membership, will subscribe the quarter of a million dollars needed for the first year almost over night.

Further on will be found some resolutions recently adopted by some grand lodges which show the sentiment relative to welfare work by the fraternity in time of war, and ideas regarding financing such a program.

DISBURSEMENTS, ACCOUNTING, BONDS

Since the formation of the Welfare Department (June, 1940) the Association has kept the funds for prosecution of that work in a separate bank account, from the Association's operating account, and kept Welfare Department items in a separate set of books. This plan will be followed if and when the welfare and morale work plans are carried out.

The secretary-treasurer of the Association, through whose hands all welfare money will first pass, is bonded: his bond will be increased to cover more than the largest sum which at any time could be in his possession.

Any other officer to whom disbursing authority might be given will also be bonded (field agents who will handle only petty cash excepted).

A semi-annual audit by a brother certified accountant will be made and copies sent to all grand lodges, other organizations, and individuals contributing to the work.

Since its reorganization in 1929 the books of The Masonic Service Association have been so kept that its financial condition at any moment is instantly determinable by an examiner. The same system is now and will be used in keeping the books of the Welfare Department.

Expenditures, as provided in the constitution and by-laws of the Association, will be under direction of the executive commission, through the executive secretary and the director of welfare.

The finance committee of the Association, appointed at each annual meeting, will of course review the Welfare Department books and audits as well as those of the usual operations of the Association and at each annual meeting, of course, the delegates will have the same control over Welfare funds as over the ordinary expenditures of the Association.

The executive commission believes that every possible safeguard has been set up to insure that all money which may be received for welfare and morale work will be wisely spent and accurately and completely accounted for.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The first move made in the welfare and morale work plans was the formation of the Advisory Committee of military leaders of the armed forces of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps and the Coast Guard and Public Health Services.

The distinguished Craftsmen who enthusiastically co-operated in giving their names and services to this committee are among others: Lieut General Ford, Major Generals Sweeney and Wilson, and Lieut. Colonel Unmacht, all active officers of the army. Admiral Woodward and Captains Bradley and Withers are active naval officers. Major General Payne is the commanding general of the 43d Division, National Guard, unique in that he, and two of its senior officers are Past Grand Masters of Connecticut, and two are Past Grand Masters of Rhode Island.

Major Brown is president; Captain Bradley, General Lyman and General Wilson are Vice-Presidents; Colonel Unmacht is secretary-treasurer of the National Sojourners, the officer-Masonic organization of our country.

The beloved and revered General of the Armies, Brother John J. Pershing, felt himself too advanced in years to accept a position on this committee, but gave it and these proposed Masonic morale and welfare plans his unqualified approval and good wishes.

The committee has not been, and will not be, a mere figurehead collection of distinguished names. Advice and counsel have been sought and obtained; communication with all is frequently had; no move of importance in making these plans has been without the understanding and approval of those whose experience and knowledge best fitted the matters in question.

The advisory committee is an assurance to all Masons that these plans meet with the approval and are considered wise and necessary by military authorities.

FIELD AGENTS

Highly important in the personnel which will carry out Masonic welfare plans, if and when grand lodges adopt them, are the field agents, so named because (1) they work in the field; (2) they are agents of the fraternity; and (3) the term "secretary", used in World

War I, is not always looked upon with favor by soldiers and sailors.

As they can make or break the success of welfare work, they must be chosen with greatest care. It has been determined that they must:

Be American citizens who are Masons in good standing and of some age in the Craft.

Be well beyond draft age.

Be sympathetic and understanding, pleasant, good tempered, approachable.

Consider it an honor to serve their brethren, and of such personal circumstances that a very small honorarium will suffice.

Be willing to work long hours for the love of the work.

Have sufficient education, and business, labor or professional experience to provide a reasonable amount of executive ability.

From two to four will be needed in every center. There should be no difficulty in getting from 100 to 150 brethren out of the 2,500,000 in the United States who have these qualifications. When and if needed, grand lodges will be requested to ask their lodges for volunteers, and/or to recommend brethren for these positions.

As the director of welfare, through his regional directors, will control and direct the field force, the selection and engagement of these brethren will be his.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

Establishing, furnishing, staffing, running, supervising a system of Masonic centers, contemplating the expenditure of a quarter of a million dollars the first year, requires an organization. This Association, in the establishment by the executive committee of a department of welfare, with Major Coulter as director, has taken the preliminary steps.

If and when these plans are put into execution by grand lodges, the organization will be expanded. Regional directors—as inspectors and liaison men—will be appointed, and a purchasing department established.

For nearly six months Major Coulter has been at work, with such clerical help as was necessary in devising and perfecting these plans.

Control maps have been started showing the installation of centers and other pertinent data. Manufacturers of equipment have been interested, catalogues obtained, articles needed selected. A manual for field agents has been written and is being kept up to date as changes occur.

Contacts in both General Staff and the Adjutant General's office of the War Department, and in the Navy Department have been established. Regulations concerning welfare and morale have been studied, and these plans have been based on those regulations.

From the General Staff came information regarding the sites of military reservations, many of which are new. These have been studied for the opportunities for Masonic service centers. Lodges in the vicinity have been listed, and communities have been the subjects of long distance surveys.

Maps, showing every military reservation in the United States, were obtained from the War Department through Major General Amos A. Fries, U.S.A. Retired, of the advisory committee. On an office map of the United States symbols have been placed indicating

probable centers. Corps Area maps showing projected installations have been prepared by Warrant Officer and Brother M. F. J. Brunow, of the Historical Section of the Army War College, who also prepared the chart of organization. State maps have been prepared to show expected installations.

Numerous agencies engaged in or studying welfare work have given assistance; none have refused us any information which we asked.

The paper work for the projected system has been studied, a complete lay-out of blank forms devised, preliminary estimate of costs obtained.

Numerous contacts with agencies and officials of the government have been made, including members of Congress who are Master Masons, and who have been much interested in the plan, among them Senators Glass, of Virginia; Bridges, of New Hampshire; Representatives Woodruff, of Michigan; Sandager, of Rhode Island, Brewster, of Maine and others.

Assistance and advice has been given by manufacturers of furniture and other equipment. Almost invariably the Association has been offered large discounts from list prices.

A suitable uniform for field agents (necessary for personnel entering military and naval reservations in war time) at a very attractive price has been planned.

STATUS WITH ARMY AND NAVY

War and Navy Department officers handling morale and welfare welcome the opportunity for civilian co-operation through the Blue Lodges, which exist in every community where military reservations are established. They believe in the necessity of Masonic welfare work and approve these plans.

One of the principal reasons why Masonry was not permitted to engage in public welfare work during World War I, although sums of money were raised by different grand lodges, and an Overseas Mission was appointed by the Grand Master of New York, was failure to recognize that the war department works under definite written regulations based upon Acts of Congress. A statutory provision is inflexible, so far as officers of the army are concerned. When Masonry asked for the privilege of doing welfare work, a decision was made that only under certain definite conditions could it be granted. Freemasonry could not meet those conditions.

The mistakes of 1918, plus an intimate knowledge of war department regulations, customs and procedure, have been considered in making these plans. As they are based on army and navy needs and desires the Association stands high with the officers handling the work in the two departments.

RED CROSS

The Red Cross is the official agency for home service, and is the only welfare agency (with the exception of a few already existing and permanent Y.M.C.A. buildings) that will be permitted to operate within military reservations.

As a result of several conferences with the Director, War Service of the Red Cross, an agreement was reduced to writing which included the following bases for Masonic Aid to the Red Cross:

All home service cases involving Masons will be handled through Masonic channels for the Red Cross.

Wherever the Red Cross has a home service case beyond the orbit of its nearest Red Cross Chapter, the field agents ask the nearest local Masonic lodge to handle the investigation for the Red Cross.

The Red Cross will keep field agents informed about admission of Masons to military and naval hospitals.

Field agents will always be ready to render any needed assistance to representatives of the Red Cross.

The agreement has won praise from many officers of the army and navy.

ACTIONS OF GRAND LODGES

ARIZONA—Adopted at the Annual Communication,

April 3-4, 1940

BE IT RESOLVED, that in the event the United States be forced into war, the Grand Master be, and he is authorized to name The Masonic Service Association as our agency in arranging for welfare work in the armed forces of our country, and to attend and participate in such meetings as may be called by said Association for the consideration of such matters.

IDAHO—Annual Communication, September 10-11, 1940.

In his annual message the grand master offered the following:

Resolved, that in the unwelcome contingency that the United States is forced to declare war against any other nation, the grand master is empowered to request The Masonic Service Association to speak and act for the Grand Jurisdiction of Idaho in arranging for welfare work among our brothers in the armed forces of our country, and authorized to attend and participate in any meetings for the consideration of these matters that may be called by said Masonic Service Association.

Of the above, the committee on jurisprudence said:

We approve the Resolution concerning welfare work, for Masons in the armed forces, in the contingency of war, proposed by the grand masters; provided, however, that the grand lodge shall not be obligated to participate in the activities that may be proposed, nor to pay any of the expenses of such activities, unless first approved by the grand master.

ADOPTED.

The following extracts from a letter from Most Worshipful W. Wade Wilson, the grand master whose resolution and its approval appear above, are pertinent.

"An ex-service man, I am, of course, heartily in favor of your suggested plans, well knowing the inconvenience and lack of Masonic support our brothers received in the last war. I also had some experience in the formation of Masonic clubs in different camps, which were seriously handicapped by lack of a general plan, such as that the Association suggests should be put into effect."

MASSACHUSETTS—Adopted at the Annual Communication, December 13, 1939.

Whereas Freemasonry would desire to meet all of its proper responsibilities in the event of the participation of this country in any present or future war, and

Whereas, The Masonic Service Association of the United States was organized, among other things, for the purpose of promoting and unifying the emergency and welfare work of the Masons of the United States

and is now formulating a plan for such work in the event of war.

Now, therefore, be it Resolved that this grand lodge give its whole-hearted support to The Masonic Service Association of the United States in this work, and that the grand master be and hereby is authorized and requested in the name of this grand lodge, from time to time to take such action as in his judgment may carry out the intent of this resolution while at the same time safeguarding the traditional independence of this grand lodge; and further, that with the advice and consent of the board of directors he may expend such sums or make such contributions as may seem necessary or desirable to meet the proper responsibilities of this grand lodge in the event of the participation of this country in war.

MISSOURI—*Annual Communication, September, 24-25, 1940.*

That the grand master be authorized to cooperate with other grand lodges, or their authorized representatives in any program of Masonic service which will reflect the desire of the grand lodge to engage in any work which will redound to the benefit of the American form of government.

(This was followed by the recommendation, which was repeated in the following report of the committee on ways and means:

"*Social Service at Military Camps.* Resolved that to carry into practice such a program, we would recommend that the committee on ways and means be authorized to set aside a fund of not to exceed five cents per capita, which amount may be paid out by order of the grand master, if, as, and when, in his estimation, it may be needed."

After consideration, the committee has approved the setting aside of \$1,000 in our budget, to be paid out by order of the grand master, if, as, and when, in his estimation it may be needed.

ADOPTED.

MONTANA—*Adopted at the Annual Communication, August 21-22, 1940.*

Be it resolved: Firmly believing that the United States should not in any circumstance resort to war, except to repel invasion upon our territory, or attack upon our nation by land or sea, we are, with those exceptions, unalterably opposed to the entry of the United States into war, directly or indirectly, and we urge all in authority to do their utmost to prevent that calamity.

We favor such preparedness as will afford this nation and its people full security of life, freedom and property. If this nation unfortunately should be drawn into actual warfare, we grant authority to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, with the concurrence of the deputy grand master, senior grand warden and junior grand warden, to use such money in the grand lodge treasury as is not otherwise appropriated, as they shall deem wise and necessary for welfare and morale work with the armed forces of the nation.

NEW JERSEY—*Adopted at the Annual Communication, April 17-8, 1940.*

Whereas, Freemasonry would desire to meet all its proper responsibilities in the event of the participation of this country in any present or any future war, and

Whereas, The Masonic Service Association of the United States was organized, among other things, for the purpose of promoting and unifying the emergency and welfare work of the Masons of the United States and is now formulating a plan for such work, now, therefore,

Be it resolved, That this grand lodge give its whole-hearted support to The Masonic Service Association of the United States and that the grand master be and he is hereby authorized and requested in the name of this grand lodge from time to time, to take such action as in his judgment will carry out the intent of this resolution while at the same time safeguarding the traditional independence of this grand lodge; and with the advice of the advisory committee and consent of the trustees of the grand lodge, he may expend such sums of money or make such appropriations as may seem necessary or desirable to meet the proper responsibilities of this grand lodge in that event.

NORTH DAKOTA—*Adopted at the Annual Communication, June 18-19, 1940.*

Resolved: That the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the chairman of the grand lodge committee on finance are hereby authorized, in the event of war or other grave national emergency, to withdraw from the grand lodge relief fund such sums as may in their judgment be necessary, for funds for co-ordinated Masonic effort, in the interim between communications of the grand lodge.

WYOMING—*Adopted at the Annual Communication, August 26-27, 1940.*

In regard to the communication of The Masonic Service Association concerning welfare and morale work during the mobilization of the army and national guard, together with a contribution by the grand lodge of from three to ten cents per capita of the subordinate lodge membership of Wyoming, your committee by a majority vote recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

A committee consisting of the grand master, deputy grand master, senior and junior grand wardens and the members of the finance committee is hereby appointed to act during the following lodge year in taking such action and expenditure of such money within the limits hereinbefore specified, as may in their judgment meet any emergency which may arise.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR—*Adopted at the Triennial Conclave, July 13-19, 1940.*

Whereas, the present tragic world situation threatens to involve the United States in spite of our earnest desire for peace, and

Whereas, in any such crisis there should be only one thought on our part and that is to meet it with a united front, therefore, be it

Resolved, by this Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America that in the event of war, the grand master is hereby authorized to cooperate as in his judgment seems best, in any morale and welfare activity on behalf of our members who may be in the armed forces of our common country, through The Masonic Service Association.

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS—*Adopted at the Annual Convention, May 23, 1940.*

That the president of National Sojourners be and is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint a committee of which he may be a member to collaborate with any organization that may be engaged in relief or service in peace or in war, provided such organization is sponsored by a substantial majority of the grand lodges of the several jurisdictions of Freemasonry.

Upon the recommendation of the Trustees, the National president was empowered to expend not to exceed \$500 in case of national emergency in whatever way he deems necessary to aid National Sojourners. NORTHERN SUPREME COUNCIL ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE—*Annual Meeting, September 25, 1940.* From the Allocation, Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander Melvin M. Johnson, 33°:

If there be call for the use of some of our funds in benevolences occasioned by the existing state of circumstances in the world or by something that may occur before we may meet again, we must not be found wanting. Just where, how, or when the need for our aid will be the most urgent, no man knows.

We should consult together and decide what, if anything, we should do immediately. Changes in the situation, however, under present world conditions, may occur so rapidly that it will be impossible to wait for another meeting of the Supreme Council before we should respond to calls for aid which may suddenly descend upon our land, as they have already descended upon the Masonic Fraternity and its members in some other lands.

We have a substantial accumulated income. You are urged to consider whether or not an appropriation

should be made therefrom for instant use, or perhaps made available in recess under such authority as you shall designate, when the need is demonstrated and the way is clear. Your grand commander has given this subject much thought and study, yet he feels utterly incompetent to predict the future so as to advise today what may be our duty six months from now, or perhaps even a month from now.

The grand lodges of this country are considering setting up suitable agencies for the benefit of our own soldiers and citizens before this country becomes officially involved in war, if it ever does. Should not the supreme council now make a substantial appropriation to be used when, as, and if, necessary even though it dip deeply into our accumulated income, authorizing and safeguarding its expenditure?

The following Resolution was adopted:

The committees on benevolence and finance, sitting jointly, have considered that portion of the Sovereign Grand Commander's Allocation relating to "Emergent Needs." They concur in the grand commander's statement that if there be a call under existing world circumstances, our Rite must not be found wanting. Therefore, we recommend that \$25,000 be appropriated for future use to meet emergent needs, the final disposition of these funds to be left to the discretion of the Sovereign Grand Commander, assisted by the advice and approval of the committee on finance.

Should the above amount be found insufficient to meet any emergency which may arise, further appropriation of funds may be made under the provisions of Article 721, page **, of the 1940 Proposed Revision of Constitutions and Regulations.

Major Benevolence

By DR. MELVIN M. JOHNSON,

Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

To my listeners, may I put the question: If you were asked to name the most devastating disease in the world, would you answer "tuberculosis?" If so, you would be wrong. There is a disease of which there are twice as many cases and which has economic and social costs which are vastly greater. Moreover, the cause and treatment of tuberculosis are understood. In the other case, they are both utterly unknown.

Would you answer "cancer?" If so, you would be wrong. There are four times as many cases of this other disease than of cancer. In fact, if you add up all of the sufferers from cancer, syphilis, infantile paralysis, malaria and yellow fever—five diseases which are the special concern of public health officials—the total falls far below the number of cases of this one most devastating disease.

I will give you its name in a moment, but let me lead up to it.

Our Supreme Council of the 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U. S. A., now holding its annual meeting in Cincinnati, has a substantial permanent fund. A few years ago we decided that we would not deprive

the living of what good that fund might do now, for the sake of providing our unknown successors with funds to spend in unknown ways, under unknown conditions, in unknown years to come, or perhaps for some dictator to confiscate. There are known needs today. No reasonable man can foresee in the future greater needs than now exist. We believe that we owe a greater duty to a known present than to an unknown future. The future should be expected to do something for itself. It is a confession of our own incompetence to assert that future generations will more wisely dispense benevolence than ourselves. And so the Supreme Council decided to spend substantially the whole of the available income of its invested funds for the benefit of humanity and to begin doing it now.

Experience has shown that it is even more difficult wisely to expend money in benevolence than it is to acquire the money to spend. To attain success in giving, there must first be a thorough study, then a carefully considered plan. Consequently, our Supreme Council spent a year and a half of careful study to find out how best it might spend its money in benevolence. That search brought us astounding information.

Let us tell you some of it but in the most recent statistics which we have.

According to the latest census, made by the American Medical Association and published last year, the average daily population of patients in all the 6,116 hospitals, public and private, in the United States, was over 966,000. Of these, the average daily census of nervous and mental hospital patients was 562,000. In the United States and Canada there are approximately the same number of patients in all mental hospitals as the number of students in all colleges and universities. Let us hope that number is the only thing they have in common! It is startling that 58% of the beds occupied by all the hospital patients in the United States are filled by mental cases. The total of mental cases is 205¼ million patient days per year. Of these, 118¼ million patient days are of sufferers from a mental disease known as Dementia Praecox or schizophrenia, a disease which dethrones the reason of its victims, most often in early life.

The first thing most of you will ask is, "What is this thing you call dementia praecox or schizophrenia?" It is hard to explain except in technical terms. The best I can do is to say that the sufferer from this disease has a split personality. He has an ingrowing mind. Physically, his body lives and moves in the world in which the rest of us live and move but he cannot adapt himself to our world because his mind creates for him a world of its own, a phantastic world as unreal as a dream. In New York State alone, in 1938 out of a total mental hospital population of 66,600, 57.6% or more than 38,300, were patients suffering from this disease.

Just to emphasize its seriousness and extent, let me tell you that mental diseases account for 50,000,000 more hospital bed days per year in the United States than all other hospitalization of every name and nature added together; and dementia praecox accounts for more than half of these mental patients. Perhaps you can remember better the one fact that one-quarter of all the hospital accommodations in this country (and indeed of the world) is occupied by dementia praecox patients.

The economic loss to the United States due to this one dread disease is more than \$1,000,000.00 a day, but the 48 states combined spend less than that amount per year in research to find how to prevent and cure it. And this is true in spite of the fact that in research lies our chief hope for the prevention and control of this and all other mental diseases. Then there is the greater loss which cannot be measured in dollars,—the social loss, the loss of normal participation in human activity. Although intangible, this is tremendous and appalling in its extent.

A considerable part of the problems of social maladjustment are constantly recruited from the ranks of the early cases of dementia praecox. Many of these maladjusted individuals who are not hospitalized are among those delinquents, dependents and criminals who disorganize society, add to the burden of our courts and increase our economic load.

Recovery from dementia praecox is not common, yet no one dies from it. It is the long institutional life of the Dementia Praecox patient that has so greatly taxed our mental hospitals. Their physical wants are watched

and cared for daily so that their average life at least equals that of the sane.

I want you to realize that what is included under the term Dementia Praecox constitutes the largest unsolved medical problem confronting science today.

As a result of scientific attack during the last 50 years, many physical diseases have been brought under control. Some of the great foundations, by persistent research, have almost wiped out many which took tolls of millions of human lives. Former President Angell, of Yale, has said that "the same energy and devotion that have gone into the study of bacterial and metabolic diseases will unquestionably produce results here (in the mental field); and I do not see how any intelligent observer can doubt that at this point the next great medical advance is to be expected, and that none is more urgently needed." Yet the first organized, coordinated and integrated research in the whole history of the world into the most devastating disease of all, is that which was founded in 1934 by the Supreme Council over which I have the honor to preside.

The cause of dementia praecox is a mystery, the methods of its prevention are utterly unknown. Its treatment is purely empiric, what a layman would call "experimental". Approximately 100 investigators financed by our Supreme Council have attacked 22 research problems, with the facilities of 12 universities and 16 hospitals available for their work. What distinguishes this coordinated effort is the pooling of the resources of scientific research; the approach to the problem in many fields of science,—exactly the principle that has given us the trans-Atlantic telephone, better electric lamps, synthetic plastics, and such miracle-working drugs as sulfanilamide.

This team-work taps all the fields of science. Workers in psychology, psychiatry, physiology, chemistry, physics, ethnology, and other sciences, have been organized and their work fitted together like cog wheels. Results to date have been even greater than any of us hoped for. Of course we have not yet found the solution. We can, however, already point to more than thirty significant findings which have enriched science and the practical treatment of mental disorders. These are published that they may be available for immediate practical use to science and humanity.

Details are too technical for this discussion, yet I cannot help saying that personally I have been much intrigued by one of our projects which is using the only known method by which the functioning of a living organ of the human body can be studied microscopically. By it the examiner can determine with almost mathematical accuracy whether or not a given patient will improve under the insulin or metrazol "shock" treatment which has been so widely publicized recently and to which our projects are giving intensive study.

Columbus sailed from Spain intending to reach India. He failed to get there but he opened a new world. Just so, even if we fail in reaching our major goal, we are absolutely certain of accomplishments far greater than mere money can buy.

The late Dr. William A. White, regarded by many as the greatest psychiatrist of his day, said:

"... no other subject in mental medicine offers a wealth of problems in need of solution, nor does

any other subject present probabilities of a greater wealth of results to repay research—results in the form of greater knowledge not only of the disease process, but of human beings themselves . . ."

Our goal will be difficult to predict, it is not impossible of success. When this problem is eventually solved and the history of its conquest written along with the conquest of yellow fever, diabetes, diphtheria and other malignant diseases which are now understood, then the results will not be confined to the membership of our Scottish Rite. Any success of our research will

be of benefit not to any small or even large group, but to unnumbered millions of humanity of every country, of every race, of every creed.

Nature consists of a giant integrated scheme which in the world of our immediate human concern is dominated by the mind of man. A disorder of this mind which stands for all that we understand as cultural development is a catastrophe affecting not only the victim but many others as well. We believe that we have found a wonderful opportunity to serve humanity in a great need.



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Samuel Seabury, first Episcopal Bishop in America, was born at Groton, Conn., November 30, 1729.

Return Jonathan Meigs, Jr., Governor of Ohio (1810-14) and U. S. Postmaster General (1814-23), was born at Middletown, Conn., November 15, 1764, and was Master of American Union Lodge, Marietta, Ohio.

Gen. Richard Caswell, Governor of North Carolina who served in the Revolutionary War, was elected Grand Master of Masons in that state, November 18, 1788, and died at Fayetteville, N. C., November 10, 1789.

Gen. William R. Davie, Governor of North Carolina (1798) and 3rd Grand Master of the Grand Lodge (1792-98), died at his home "Tivoli," Lancaster Co., S. C., November 8, 1820.

Rev. John H. Honour, 6th Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A., was initiated in Orange Lodge No. 14, Charleston, S. C., November 2, 1824, and died in that city, November 26, 1885.

Samuel C. Lawrence, Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33d, for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U. S. A., was born at Medford, Mass., November 22, 1832.

Frederick Dalcho, one of the founders of the Supreme Council, 33d, at Charleston, S. C., in 1801, and the 2nd Grand Commander (1816-22), died in that city, November 24, 1836.

George Washington Finley (Te-Wah-Guah-Ke-Mon-Goh), Chief of the Piankeshas and one of the few full-blooded Indians to receive the 32nd Degree, died at Tulsa, Okla., November 16, 1932.

Alva Adams, Governor of Colorado for several terms, received the 33rd Degree in the Southern Jurisdiction, November 6, 1917, and became Active Member in Colorado. His death occurred at Battle Creek, Mich., November 1, 1922.

Hugh McCurdy, 16th Grand Master of Knights Templar, U. S. A. (1892-95), received the 33rd Degree in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, November 18, 1873, becoming an Active Member ten years later.

LIVING BRETHREN

Dr. Claud F. Young, 33d, Active Member in Kansas of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A., was born at Bowie, Texas, November 19, 1887.

William Koch, 33d, Active Member in Iowa of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, received the 32nd Degree at Des Moines, Iowa, November 21, 1902.

Harry A. Drachman, 33d, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge and Deputy in Arizona of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, was exalted in Tucson Chapter No. 3, R.A.M., November 28, 1903.

Robert S. Crump, 33d, Acting Treasurer General and Active Member in Virginia of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, received the 32nd Degree at Richmond, November 12, 1904.

William M. Jardine, Secretary of Agriculture in the Coolidge Cabinet (1925-29), received the 32nd Degree at Topeka, Kans., November 23, 1917.

Chandler Gurney, U. S. Senator from South Dakota, received the 32nd Degree at Yankton, S. D., November 20, 1919.

Hugh L. White, former Governor of Mississippi (1936-40), received the 32nd Degree at Jackson, November 26, 1919.

Robert H. Jackson, U. S. Attorney General in the present Cabinet, received the 32nd Degree at Jamestown, N. Y., in November, 1930.

Charles P. Summerall, 33d, president of The Citadel, State Military Institute of South Carolina, and Active Member in that state of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, received the 32nd Degree at Charleston, November 22, 1934.

JUSTICES

All five justices of the Supreme Court of Montana are Masons, while four out of five justices of the Supreme Court of North Dakota are members of the Craft.

HAS RAISED 160

Samuel R. McManus, of Amarillo (Texas) Lodge No. 731, was recently awarded a life certificate for his excellent record as a member of the Committee on Work. During his Masonic career Mr. McManus has conferred one hundred and sixty Masters' Degrees.

He became a Master Mason in the Lone Star Lodge No. 403 of Dennison, Texas, about forty years ago.

ITALY'S ROLE

When David Copperfield decided to give a dinner to some friends he consulted his landlady, Mrs. Crupp. She entered enthusiastically into the project and pledged co-operation. They would get the soup from the caterer, the fish from another, the joint from a third, the sweets from a fourth, all delivered at the right moment and ready to serve. "That," said Mrs. Crupp, "will leave me free to give all my attention to the potatoes."

The Mediterranean is to be Mussolini's mess of potatoes. He will prudently keep the fleet in Italian and Tripolitan harbors, with an occasional sortie and hit-and-run engagement; but, particularly since the loss of the crack cruiser Bartolomeo Colleoni, he will avoid full-dress battles. In that way Italy will continue to "dominate" the Mediterranean, just as the Germans dominated the high seas after Jutland.

The present war is not popular in Italy; but the nation and its leader are so bound to the Hitler cause that they cannot break away, and hopes of a widespread revolt or a military mutiny that would lead to the overthrow of the fascist regime are vain and delusive.

However little he may like it, according to the correspondent of the *London Times* lately in Rome, Mussolini has delivered himself and his country into the hands of a man stronger than himself, "who is little likely to allow his ally, however roughly he is handled, to withdraw from their common conspiracy against civilization."

The Italian people, it is pointed out, are on the horns of a cruel dilemma. If they suffer a defeat while Germany is still unconquered, the unpopular German stranglehold will be clamped more firmly upon them. A German defeat will mean the defeat of Italy and the death of her ambitions. Italy has no choice now but to concentrate on the potatoes.—*Boston Herald*.

N. H. OLDEST MASON

Joseph Drew Howe, son of Joseph and Mahala Howe, was born in Lancaster, New Hampshire, September 17, 1841. He is Lancaster's oldest citizen, and possessor of the Boston Post cane. The active years of his life were devoted to farming, although he was always prominent in civic affairs, and has settled many estates as an executor or administrator.

He served three terms as selectman, and was for many years on the School Board of the town district. He was a representative to the General Court in 1890-91.

He is the oldest Master Mason in New Hampshire, having joined North Star Lodge, May 9, 1865, and on May 9, 1940, was presented a seventy-five year medal by M.W. Warren H. Tucker, Grand Master. He has retained his membership in North Star Lodge, No. 8, also the Chapter, Council, Commandery, and Consistory, and is a member of the Lancaster Grange.

His health is unusual for a man of his years, and his mind is very active. He reads much and follows local, national and foreign affairs. He makes daily trips into the business section of town. He has often been a contributor to newspapers and in recent years has written many interesting reminiscent articles in a clear hand writing.

TO RECEIVE GIFT OF \$250,000

The Montreal Unit of the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children will receive a gift of \$250,000 from Hugo Wild as its share of a \$1,000,000 fund. The money, now held by the Wild Auxiliary Hospital and Charitable Fund, Inc., will be turned over to the hospital upon the death of certain beneficiaries. Accumulated revenue will also be included in the bequest.

Other hospitals receiving equal shares with the Shrine institution are the Montreal General Hospital, St. Justine's Hospital and the Children's Memorial Hospital, all of Montreal.

Henry J. Elliott, chairman of the board of governors of the Montreal Unit of the Shriners' Hospitals, was named a member of the board of trustees for the Wild Auxiliary Hospital and Charitable Fund, Inc.

GOVERNOR AND WIFE INITIATED

Governor Payne H. Ratner, of Kansas, and his wife, Mrs. Cliffe D. Ratner, became members of one of the largest Eastern Star Chapters in the world when they were initiated into Beulah Chapter No. 34, of Topeka, Kans., at a meeting in the Scottish Rite Temple late in September. More than 500 members of the Eastern Star witnessed the ceremony at which Governor and Mrs. Ratner and six other candidates were inducted into the Order.

Several Past Grand Matrons of the Grand Chapter of Kansas and other prominent members of the Eastern Star were present and sixty-one chapters were represented. An enthusiastic welcome was given Mrs. Julia Ratner, mother of the Kansas governor, who was an honorary guest at the ceremony. She is a member of Progress Chapter No. 49, Parsons, Kans.

Governor Ratner was made a Master Mason in Siloam Lodge No. 225, Topeka, Kans., on May 30, 1940. He is the second Governor of Kansas to become a member of Beulah Chapter No. 34 of the Order of Eastern Star, the other being U. S. Senator Arthur Capper.

FRATERNAL RELATIONSHIPS

Many inquiries have come to this office, asking whether the candidates chosen by the republican and democratic parties for president and vice president of the United States are Masons, and also as to their religious relationships, if any.

The answer is that Wendell Lewis Willkie is a member of the Craft. He was made a Mason in Quincy Lodge No. 230, at Elwood, Indiana, on September 9, 1913. He demitted from that body in 1920, to become a charter member of Coventry Lodge No. 655, at Kkron, Ohio. The nominee is an Episcopalian.

Senator McNary, Republican nominee for vice-president, has been for twenty-four years a member of Pacific Lodge of Salem, Oregon. He is also a member of Multnomah Chapter, Royal Arch Masonry, De Molay Commandery, K. T., and El Kader Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., all of Portland, Oregon.

It is generally known that President Roosevelt is a Mason, holding membership in a New York City Lodge. He has at various times participated in the ceremonies of that body, notably on the occasion when his son was made a Master Mason. He is an Episcopalian.

Secretary Henry A. Wallace, Democratic nominee for vice-president comes from a Masonic family in Iowa.—*The Masonic World*.

MASONIC PRINTERS RANK HIGH

Three entries from the Masonic Home School, Fort Worth, Tex., won honors at the 19th annual conference on printing education, held at Rochester, N. Y., early in July. First place in the trade and vocational school division and the grand award for all-around excellence was won for the third time by the art-printers club of the Masonic Home school, which gives it permanent possession of a cup presented by the American Type Founders Company, Elizabeth, N. J. The Texas school had the smallest enrollment of any of the 125 participating institutions.

Other Masonic Home entries to win awards were the Explorers' Club, which placed third in the junior high school division, and the Masonic Home Graphic Arts Club, which placed second in the senior high school division. All are sponsored by Masons.

Third place in the trade and vocational school division went to Paso del Norte Club of the El Paso, Tex., Technical Institute. This club is sponsored by William Van Gasbeek, El Paso Lodge No. 130.

RESOLUTION OF THE LODGE

HIRAM OF LONDON

In view of the dissolution of the Masonic Federation of the Grand Orient of France in consequence of the prohibition of Masonry in France by decree of the Government of Vichy:

"Considering that a Lodge exists from the sole fact of its having been and is regularly constituted. Considering that the Grand Orient of France possesses 12 Lodges in foreign countries forming a peculiar region, having a Bureau regularly constituted and with a delegate in the Council of the Order; Considering that Masonic law has always authorized the creation of a Federation or Grand Lodge by four regular Lodges: Considering the necessity of safeguarding French Freemasonry, whose existence nearly uninterrupted dates from 1725, in order to assure Masonic activity and cohesion between the Lodges of the region of foreign countries of the Grand Orient of France; the Lodge Hiram at the Orient of London has decided to continue all its work as in the past; that there is good reason to designate a Brother duly informed on the regulations and workings of the Order, in order to represent to the Lodges of the Region of Foreign countries the administrative authority of the Supreme Council of the Order while waiting the renewal of Masonic activity by the Grand Orient of France.

In consequence of this, the Lodge Hiram recognizes the aforesaid authority of the Illustrious Brother Maurice Paillard 33d as delegate of the Region of Lodges of Foreign countries, and Member of the Council of the Order from 1934 to 1937, Vice-President of the Bureau of the Congress of the colonies and for-

eign countries since 1937, and Master of Lodge Hiram since 1926, in order to invite the various Lodges of the Region of Foreign countries of the Grand Orient of France to recognize the Ill. Bro. Maurice Paillard as temporary representative of the Order under the distinctive title of Master of the Lodges of the Region of Foreign countries, and to address themselves to him for all information arising normally from the administration of the Grand Orient of France of which they will have need."

ALL-AMERICAN HIGHWAY URGED

Speedy completion of the highway extending from Alaska to Argentina, which would play an important part in the plans for the defense of the Americas, is being urged by Thomas P. Henry, president of the American Automobile Association.

In a letter to chairmen of the House and Senate Military Affairs Committees, he called attention to the fact that many stretches of road along the proposed highway are already built, and urged the linking of these portions as promptly as possible in view of the present world crisis. He asserted that, for many years, motorists of the American nations have been looking forward to the eventual completion of this highway, that it had been considered primarily as a means of opening up new travel objectives between the countries of the Western Hemisphere and promoting solidarity, friendship and closer economic ties among the American peoples.

However, he said, today's world crisis puts an entirely new light on this project, adding:

"Embarked on a program of building up its national defense and pledged to protect the entire hemisphere from aggression, the United States has greater need for this highway than ever before. Speedy completion of the All-American Highway should be an integral part of plans for the defense of America."

CELEBRATE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Louisville Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar of the State of Kentucky, started its career in 1840. Growing too large to accommodate its membership, it "swarmed" and thus DeMolay Commandery No. 12 came into being. Eventually it became the largest in Kentucky. Because of losses in later years, however, it was decided that, for the mutual benefit of both Bodies, they should unite, and the name chosen for the new Body was Louisville-DeMolay Commandery No. 12.

This year marked the 100th anniversary of the original body, Louisville Commandery No. 1, and it was celebrated in Louisville-DeMolay Commandery No. 12. The elaborate program began October 12th when the Order of the Red Cross was conferred, and continued on October 17th when fifteen were inducted into the Order of Malta. The next day the Com-

mandery opened in full form, with inspection and review, and eight received the Order of the Temple.

The evening of October 18th was taken up with a reception and dance. The Order of the Temple was conferred upon seven more on October 19th, and the celebration closed the same evening with a Centennial Dinner at the Brown Hotel in Louisville. Past Commander W. A. Armstrong was toastmaster, and speakers were Conrad H. Cates, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Stephen S. Jones and A. Gordon Sulser, Past Grand Commander.

GRAND MATRON INJURED

Mrs. Anna Winston Smalley, Most Worthy Grand Matron of the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, sustained serious injuries recently, when she was struck on the head by a falling upper berth while traveling west from Pittsburgh, Pa., on a T. W. A. airliner. The accident occurred in Chicago, but she was not taken from the plane until she reached Salt Lake City, Utah.

Physicians at the Latter Day Saints Hospital in Salt Lake City reported a badly injured vertebra in her neck and an eye injury.

HAWAII

During a recent reunion in Honolulu, Hawaii, twenty-one received the Scottish Rite Degrees. The work was supervised by James S. McCandless, 33d, Deputy in Hawaii of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, A.&A.S.R., U. S. A., who celebrated his 85th birth anniversary on September 20, 1940.

JUSTICES

Two of the three Justices of the Supreme Court of Arizona are Masons.

NEW YORK GRAND LODGE

The New York *Masonic Outlook* for October, 1940, reports the laying of two cornerstones Masonically, during the summer months. One stone was laid for the Andrew S. Draper Central School at Schenectady, on August 17th, and the other was for the new post office at Canastota, N. Y., on August 31st.

The ceremonies were conducted by Deputy Grand Master William F. Strang and Junior Grand Warden Richard A. Rowlands. The latter acted as Grand Master in laying the cornerstone of the high school, and the former at the ceremonies of the post office.

At the conclusion of the laying of the cornerstone of the post office, the Deputy Grand Master expressed a wish that the future of world affairs during the forthcoming year might be revealed to him. Observing that no person knows what may happen, he said that Americans should be eternally vigilant in preserving their liberty. He then added, "Liberty

is more difficult to maintain than to achieve, and we must keep our heads and think coolly as the conflict across the water becomes more and more involved, if we hope to preserve our democracy."

EARLY MASONS

The oft-repeated question of who were Masons among the men who played important parts in the early days of our country is well answered in a brochure recently published. The booklet was published under the aegis of the U. S. Constitution Sesquicentennial Commission, which is directed by the Hon. Sol Bloom, 32d, U. S. Representative from New York, who is also Director of the Washington Bicentennial Commission. The material was collected by Representative

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Bloom and added to and arranged by John H. Cowles, Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33d, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

Beautifully printed and illustrated, the brochure is a fine example of the printer's art. It tells the various roles played by early Masons in the founding of the United States, and the source material, including photostats of many important documents, makes it invaluable for reference purposes.

SEEKS FRIENDSHIP

It is reported that the French Ambassador to the United States, Gaston Henri-Haye, proposes to travel about this country in an endeavor to restore the very strong feeling of friendship that had existed between the people of the United States and the French people. He, of course, represents the Vichy Government, which is dominated by Hitler.

It is believed by some that he has the idea that if this can be brought about, it will cause the U. S. Government officials to permit the Vichy Government to withdraw some of the gold that France, before its surrender, had sent to the United States and which has been impounded.

In this connection it is well to remember that the present French Government, which Ambassador Henri-Haye represents, has closed all the Masonic Lodges in that country at the demand and order of Hitler. It might be pertinent to ask Ambassador Henri-Haye why they were suppressed, and what his Government proposes to do regarding Freemasonry in the future.

ENGLAND NEEDS AMBULANCES

Bombs dropped from Hitler's air armada upon civilians and torpedoes launched against all enemy and neutral ships regardless of their cargoes have brought the present war directly to the civilian populations of the countries he has struck against. England is now the only remaining active enemy, and the Nazi air and submarine fleets are now concentrated against British cities and British ships.

England needs ambulances—a great many ambulances. Britain must have them to transport the wounded quickly, civilians as well as soldiers, to hospitals in order to save the lives of those hit during the ruthless air attacks.

Scottish Rite Bodies in Los Angeles, Calif., Portland, Ore., and Covington and Louisville in Kentucky, have each provided an ambulance for shipment to England. The cost of each is \$1,350, fully equipped, and the transportation is furnished by England. Each one bought is immediately shipped to Britain where it is put into service at once.

Ambulances are purchased through the

British American Ambulance Corps, Inc., 420 Lexington Avenue, New York, N. Y. Contributions totaled more than \$400,000, early in October, from both organizations and individuals. The goal set by the Ambulance Corps is a thousand units.

The name of the donor, whether an organization or an individual, is placed on the side of each ambulance. Any organization or individual wishing to contribute to this cause, so vital to England in its fight against Germany and Italy, is urged to write to the British American Ambulance Corps at the above address or to the Supreme Council, 33d, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A., 1733 Sixteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

MISSOURI MASONS CARE FOR 25 WAR CHILDREN

The Grand Lodge of Missouri has offered to take care of twenty-five European refugee children at its Masonic home in St. Louis, where they will be raised and educated. No limitations were placed upon the children as to religion, creed, or their relationship to Freemasonry. If circumstances warrant it, fifteen more children will be taken later on.

The Grand Lodge offered to pay for transporting the children from Europe as well as the costs of caring for and

educating them. The report of the Committee on Refugee Children stated that the United States must face the problem of taking care of refugees, and intimated that Freemasonry should take a major roll inasmuch as the dictator nations seek to destroy every principle for which the Fraternity stands.

The Grand Lodge also contributed \$250 to the Swiss Grand Lodge Alpina, the money to go for relief purposes.

Several other Grand Lodges of the United States have also offered to place English children in their homes; some have already been placed.

Since the above offers were made, however, the British Government has decided not to exacuate any more children to the United States, at least for the present.

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MARK BENEVOLENT FUND

English Masons—pressed by total war that eats up 70 per cent of the national income—still carry on their charities. Contributions totaling 297,881 pounds to the three principal national charities, the Royal Benevolent Institution for old people, the School for Girls and the School for Boys, were made by English Masons earlier this year.

Now comes word that the Mark Benevolent Fund, subscribed by the members of the English Mark Lodges, received contributions totaling 10,243 pounds. In addition to these great charities, English Masons continue to maintain the Royal Masonic Hospital, two or three lifeboat stations, and other charitable works in nearly every Province.

DALLAS MASONS FAVOR ENGLAND

Dallas, Tex., Scottish Rite Masons recently called upon members of the Craft to mobilize behind democracy and dedicated their fall reunion, Nov. 4 to 7, to the identical ideals of Freemasonry and freedom. Dallas Masons utilized the three-day meeting to redeclare their faith in democratic processes.

In line with this faith, Dallas Bodies have already espoused the cause of Great Britain against the dictator nations. In recent statements, Dallas Craft members pointed out that Masonry and democracy complement each other, and that where Masonry has been banned, democracy has died.

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Rastus: "Brother president, we needs a cuspidor."

President of Eight Ball Club: "I appoints Brother Brown as cuspidor."

EXCLUSIVE

Into a fashionable church walked a shabby Negro. After due inquiry, and some difficulty, he located the rector and said to him: "Sah, Ah'd like to join dis chu'ch." The rector was in a dilemma. "My good man," he said at last, "where do you live?" "Ah lives in Harlem," was the reply. "Then don't you think it would be wise for you to join a church in your own neighborhood?" "Yas, sah, but Ah desires to join dis chu'ch." The rector pondered. "My man," he said, "suppose you go home and pray over this important step?" This the Negro agreed to do. The next day he again appeared before the rector. "Rectah," he said, "Ah went home and prayed to de Lawd like you tole me, an' axed Him how Ah could get into dis chu'ch, and God done appear an' he say, 'Rastus, whaffo' you ax me how to get inter dat chu'ch? Why, man, fo' 10 yeahs Ah been trying to get into dat chu'ch Myself!'"

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